

NEWSLETTER



INSTITUTE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF FREEDOM OF INFORMATION



ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION IN GEORGIA PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT SUMMARIZING 2010 – 2015

On December 11th, 2015 the Institute for Development of Freedom of Information (IDFI) held presentation of the report summarizing situation of [Freedom of Information in Georgia](#) during 2010-2015. The report was prepared within the framework of the project “Public Information Database – www.opendata.ge”.

IDFI revealed and awarded most accountable public institutions of 2010-2015:

- Office of Public Defender (Ombudsman) of Georgia
- Municipal Board of Dmanisi

The most closed public institution - the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development was also revealed. The ministry left the highest number of our requests (44) unanswered.

Seven sub-entities of the Ministry of Justice as well as Tsalka Municipal Council left all requests of IDFI unanswered.

The most accountable public institutions revealed during 2015 are:

- Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure
- Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs
- Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia
- Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources
- Government of Autonomous Republic of Adjara and all the Ministries of Autonomous Republic of Adjara.

It has to be mentioned that several public institutions worsened their results during 2015:

- The Ministry of Justice worsened its rating by 45.9%
- Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia has left 44 request unanswered, hence showed 50.2% regress.
- In 2015, Administration of the Government of Georgia - 74.8% regress.

INTERNET FREEDOM IN GEORGIA IN AUGUST 2014 - NOVEMBER 2015

The [analysis](#) of freedom of expression on the Internet in Georgia, government policies in terms of developing Internet infrastructure and protection of Internet users' rights revealed several relevant tendencies over the last year in Georgia.

WHAT IMPACT WILL THE DECISION OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT HAVE ON THE FUTURE OF THE CHARTER OF FREEDOM

The [analysis](#) reviews if the existence of the norms, considered in the new decision of constitutional court is justified

PUBLIC INFORMATION DATABASE - WWW.OPENDATA.GE 2013-2015

The goal of the project is supporting of the development of freedom of information by increasing level of accountability of state authorities and civic engagement in decision-making process and public monitoring and control over the government.

Within the frames of the project IDFI published three data analysis during December, 2015 on:

- [Remuneration of the Members of the High Council of Justice in 2015](#)
- [Bonuses and Salary Supplements of High Officials in first 6 months of 2015](#)
- [International Financial Grants Allocated for Georgia in the 1995-2015 Time Period](#)
- [Administrative expenses of the parliament of Georgia, President and Government Administrations in 2015 January-August](#)

STRATEGIC PLAN GEORGIA 2020 - STRENGTHENING PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT



The goal of the project is to raise the awareness among civil society groups and to strengthen the understanding of Georgia's socio-economic development strategy "Georgia 2020". To identify problems and to formulate relevant recommendations, existing challenges and the implementation process of the strategy will be critically analyzed.

Within the frames of the project IDFI held discussion: [Civil Service Reform: Changes and Prospects](#) and organized three series of lectures on:

- [Informal Economy: Diagnosis and Remedies](#)
- [Good Governance in Georgia](#)
- [Regulating Capital Market in Georgia – Transformation and Sustainability](#)

Participants of the project prepared five articles during last month about:

- [Securities Market in Georgia - Problems, Challenges and Perspectives](#)
- [Efficiency of Logistics System and Georgia](#)
- [What is Inclusive Growth?](#)
- [The Rise of Bureaucracy in Georgia](#)

Open Government Georgia

SUPPORTING PARLIAMENT OF GEORGIA'S INVOLVEMENT IN OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE

Open Government Partnership (OGP) is a multilateral initiative that aims to secure concrete commitments from governments to promote transparency, empower citizens, fight corruption, and harness new technologies to make government more open, effective and accountable, leading to more efficient use of public resources, innovation and inclusive growth.

In December Inter-Factional Group of the Parliament of Georgia and Open Parliament Working Group [discussed](#) project outcomes, also

Implementation of the Open Parliament Georgia Action Plan [has begun](#).

In December IDFI conducted [public discussion](#) on Parliamentary Openness at Ilia State University and held [award ceremony](#) of the Competition Open Parliament - Voice of Youth

Within the frames of the contest winner [Nana Bagalishvili](#) and authors of four other best ideas: Merab meladze, Ani Khachidze, Giorgi tsetskhladze and Temur Ikoshvili were named.

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

- [Article](#) of Giorgi Kldiashvili, director of IDFI for LIT-EBRD
- IDFI held [meeting](#) with students regarding Open Data at Tbilisi State University
- [Accessibility](#) of judicial decisions in the EBRD's countries of operations

COALITION FOR AN INDEPENDENT AND TRANSPARENT JUDICIARY

Coalition for an Independent and Transparent Judiciary was formed in April 2011, with 31 member NGOs. The goal of the coalition is to strengthen the capacity of legal professional associations, legal rights NGOs, business associations, and the media in monitoring relevant judicial practices and advocating for an independent judiciary.

Activities of the coalition during last month:

- Coalition [views](#) on the proposed amendments to witness interrogation rules
- The Coalition for an Independent and Transparent Justice [Calls](#) for Suspension of the Ongoing Judicial Selection/ Appointment Process
- The Coalition for Independent and Transparent Judiciary [calls](#) on politicians to exercise caution while assessing the cases ongoing at the Constitutional Court
- NGOs' [Request](#) Transparency in the Process of Appointing Judges

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